## **Brock Pierce**

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► Hollywood

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## Background

### Wikipedia

Brock Pierce (born November 14, 1980) is an American entrepreneur, former child actor. As a child actor, he was in Disney films The Mighty Ducks (1992), D2: The Mighty Ducks (1994) and First Kid (1996).

Pierce was an Executive VP at Digital Entertainment Network and he was arrested with other company executives by Interpol in Spain in May 2002. Pierce has been involved in the establishment of digital currencies and virtual goods.[3] He founded Internet Gaming Entertainment in 2001 and ZAM in 2003. Many of Pierce's companies have operated in this virtual space.

Pierce is active in the Bitcoin/Blockchain ecosystem, with numerous speaking engagements, conference activities, and community involvement. In May 2014, Pierce was elected Director of the Bitcoin Foundation.[5] Pierce is founder and managing partner at Blockchain Capital,[6] a venture capital firm that is amongst the most active venture capital firms in Fintech.

Pierce supports non-profit and advocacy efforts, and is a member of the Clinton Global Initiative. He has been a guest lecturer at the Milken Global Conference, [9] Singularity University, Stanford, USC, Caltech, and UCLA. In 2000 three young actors filed a civil lawsuit claiming Pierce sexually abused them, also naming fellow Digital Entertainment Network executives Chad Shackley and Marc Collins-Rector.

#### **Acting career**

Pierce was born in Minnesota, and appeared in commercials as a toddler. His first major role was playing a young Gordon Bombay in The Mighty Ducks

(1992). Pierce reprised the role in D2: The Mighty Ducks. He starred as Luke Davenport in First Kid (1996). Pierce had small roles in Little Big League (1994), Ripper Man (1995), Problem Child 3 (1995), Three Wishes (1995), and Earth Minus Zero (1996).

### From Entrepreneurship

Digital Entertainment Network

In 1999, Pierce was an executive vice-president of the Digital Entertainment Network, a company that created four-to-six minute streaming-video series, having raised \$88m dollars from blue chip investors. As an 18-year-old, Pierce was making \$250,000 a year and held 1% of the company's shares, a board member describing him as "the guy who could tell us what Gen-Yers were likely to think". Pierce resigned from DEN in October 1999.

### Bitcoin/cryptocurrency career

Pierce is known for his work with Bitcoin and other digital currencies, as an advisor, founder, and investor. Pierce has invested in over 30 companies in the blockchain ecosystem, helped raise over \$200MM for companies he is involved with, is a mentor for startup accelerators, and runs a top AngelList syndicate. Pierce is a founder, board member, or advisor for several Bitcoin companies, including GoCoin, Tether, ZenBox, Blade Financial, Expresscoin, Noble Markets, BitGo and ChangeTip.

### **Additional Relevant Facts**

Bloomberg page: [1]

- See Also: Infogalactic page for Brock Pierce [2]
- FB: [3]
- Co-founded IGE (**Internet Gaming Entertainment**)in 2001/02 (?) [4] "IGE® is a diversified service provider operating the world's largest secure network of buying and selling sites for massively multiplayer online game (MMOG) **virtual currency and assets** on the Internet. Since its founding in 2002 by consummate gamers, IGE® has been an industry trailblazer and a market steward. In meeting the demand of game players to buy, sell and trade in-game items, IGE® provides gamers with fast transactions, 24-hour customer service and guaranteed transactional security. IGE® is dedicated to improving gamer services and fostering a more enjoyable gaming experience."
  - sounds like Bitcoin... online money.. or transferring/buying intangible online currency
  - when disbanded website/service? why?
  - rumors of a \$60 million Goldman Sachs investment in IGE
  - Titan Gaming/Playsino
    - from Pierce's wiki: "In 2010, Titan Gaming recruited Pierce to sit on its board..."
    - Affinity Media

- Affinity Media Properties: [5]

started an independent production company while attending USC film school

house in the Laurel Canyon hills, California [6]

- [7]Caltech Entrepreneurs Forum Speakers Biographies
- "Brock Pierce: Digital Currency Pioneer, Serial Entrepreneur
  Brock Pierce is a 10x entrepreneur best known for pioneering the market
  for digital currency. He has raised more than \$200 million on behalf of
  his companies and led more than 30 acquisitions. Pierce launched his
  first of many digital currency startups in 1998, which have collectively
  processed billions of dollars in sales. He was an early adopter and
  advocate of Bitcoin beginning with mining in 2009, starting
  numerous businesses in the Bitcoin economy, and speaking at many
  notable conferences on the subject including the Milken Global
  Conference in 2012. Pierce is currently a Managing Director of the
  Clearstone Global Gaming Fund and sits on the boards of IMI
  Exchange, Xfire, Playsino, GoCoin, FGL, Spicy Horse Games,
  KnCMiner.cn and the Mastercoin Foundation. He is also an active
  angel investor, member of Bit Angels and an investor in BTC China. "
  - Lawsuits:
- May 30, 2007, a 28-year-old gamer named Antonio Hernandez filed a multimillion-dollar class-action lawsuit against IGE in a US district court in Florida.
- (?) Debonneville sued Pierce in Los Angeles federal court
  - Business Associates: (Swiss) Alan Debonneville, Jonathan Yantis, (Jinhua, China) Liu Haibin, Stephen Bannon, Salyer (?), Randy Maslow,
  - Associated locations (of business or personal):
- Marabella, Spain (2001 IGE corporate headquarters, etc)
- Thailand? (alledged vacation?)
- Africa (?) Liberia (?)
- Boca Raton, Florida (IGE US headquarters)
- Hong Kong, (IGE 'base of operation' & two floors in the same building as AOL Time Warner Asia)
- Shanghai, China (IGE supply center)
- New York (attended) the second State of Play conference

### Relationship to #Pizzagate

# Connection to the Clinton Global Initiative, part of the Clinton Foundation

- Pierce supports non-profit and advocacy efforts, and is a member of the Clinton Global Initiative, part of the Clinton Foundation.[8]
- 4Dec2008 From Wired, "On the drive back up to his house in the Laurel Canyon hills, [Pierce] kept talking, telling me about his current list of projects, entrepreneurial and otherwise. He had just sold a casino in the Philippines. There was an oil deal in Kazakhstan. He was doing philanthropic work with the Clinton Global Initiative. He was working with the family of the president of El Salvador to make some worthy documentary or another."[9]
- donated to Clinton Foundation in 2009

## **Connection to Digital Entertainment Network**

• In 2000, three young actors filed a civil lawsuit claiming Pierce sexually abused them, also naming fellow Digital Entertainment Network executives Chad Shackley and Marc Collins-Rector.[10]

## **Connection to Jeffrey Epstein**[11]

### **Timeline**

- 14Nov1980 born
- **1983** (age 3) was in a commercial
- **1992** (age 12) he was in Disney film 'The Mighty Ducks'
- **1994** (age 14) he was in Disney film 'D2: The Mighty Ducks', small role in Little Big League (1994), ...
- **1995** (age 15) small role in Ripper Man (1995), Problem Child 3 (1995), Three Wishes (1995), ...
- **1996** (age 16) he was in Disney film 'First Kid', Earth Minus Zero (1996), ...
- **1999(?)-Oct1999** (age 19) Pierce was an executive vice-president and resigned in Oct
- **2000** part of lawsuit??? defendant?... None of the three DEN founders could be located, and default judgments totaling \$4.5 million were handed down

did Pierce contest the lawsuit two years later?

- May2001 (age 21) founded Internet Gaming Entertainment (IGE) (changed to IMI)
- "...setting up corporate headquarters in a 700-square-foot office in downtown Marbella (Spain)..."
- same place 3 DEN founders were found and arrested?
  - **June2002** police detention alongside Marc Collins-Rector and Chad Shackley in Spain
  - **2003** (age 23) co-founded (?) ZAM
- Nov2003 State of Play conference on virtual worlds in New York City
  - 2004/2005 IGE spent more than \$25
    million buying out seven smaller
    competitors, including four auction
    platforms and a number of fan and content
    sites.
- 22Jan2004 according to press release: IGE and Yantis' MySuperSales site were merging
  - **2005** Pierce estimated that IGE accounted for about 50% of this online market in the U.S., which has about \$500 million in annual volume
- which online market exactly?
- **26June2007** Pierce resigned from his CEO position at IGE/IMI Exchange
- **2009** donated to Clinton Foundation (links?)
- **2010** (age 30) Titan Gaming recruited Pierce to sit on its board
- May2014 (age 34) Pierce was elected Director of the Bitcoin Foundation

## Articles

- **18Nov2003** [12] Play Money, Meet Big Money
- "Brock Pierce looks like a Norman Rockwell 13-year-old, talks like a coked-up 35-year-old, and happens to have turned 23 last Friday. He is either my new best friend or my new worst nightmare..."
  - 12June2004 [13] (The Walrus)
     Game Theories Online fantasy
     games have booming economies
     and citizens who love their
     political systems. Are these
     virtual worlds the best place to
     study the real one?
  - **25Oct2004** [14] Material gains from virtual world Imagine money being made out of virtually nothing being traded
  - **26June2007** [15] (AffinityMedia) Affinity Media Announces New CEO
- "...As a part of this transition, **Brock Pierce** has decided to resign his position as CEO of Affinity Media. Brock felt it was the best time to step down and bring in a new CEO to take the company into its next stage...Brock will remain a trusted advisor to and a board member of Affinity Media and will also be pursuing new business endeavors..."
  - 24Nov2008 [16] (Wired)
    The Decline and Fall of an
    Ultra Rich Online Gaming
    Empire
  - **4Dec2008** [17] (**Wired**) A Drive Through Laurel Canyon With Brock Pierce

tone of the article seems strange... purposefully avoiding DEN scandal discussion

8May2012 [18] (Business Insider)
 (written by Brock
 Pierce) Here's Why This
 'Mighty Ducks' Star
 Thinks LA Is The Hub Of
 Entrepreneurs

• 15Aug2014 [19] (VentureBeat) Here are
our big speakers for
GamesBeat 2014: Peter
Molyneux, Zynga's Clive
Downie, and Unity's David
Helgason

- "...Our advisers include: Brock Pierce, the managing director of the Clearstone Global Fund..."

## Themes

# The Cycle of Abuse Bitcoin Industry

### In Media

 Documentary, An Open Secret, directed by Amy Berg, released November 14th, 2014:
 [20]

### See Also

- Oakwood Apartments
- Digital Entertainment Network (DEN)
- Bob Villard
   photographer of
   questionable children
   headshots (spoken of
   in the 'An Open Secret'
   documentary [21])